THE BLACK BOX

By E. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM

(Continued from Yesterday.) CHAPTER IV.

HERE seemed to be nothing a all original in the methods pursued by the great criminologist when confronted with the tableau of death and robbery. His remarks to the inspector were few and perfunctory. He asked only a few languld questions of Macdougal and Lewho were summoned to his

"You had left the hotel, I under stand, at the time when the crime oc curred?" he asked the former.

Macdougal, grave and respectful made his answers with difficulty. His voice was choked with emotion.

"I brought my mistress home from the opera, sir. I rode on the box with Mrs. Delarey's chauffeur. After I had seen her safely in the hotel I went up to my room for two minutes and left the hotel by the back entrance."

"Anyone see you?" "The doorkeeper, sir, and I passed page upon the stairs." Wasn't it rather late for you to go

"My days are a little dull here, sir Macdougal replied, "and my attend ance is not required early in the morning. I have made some friends in the city, and I usually go out to a restaurant and have some supper.

"Quite natural," Mr. Quest agreed "That will do, thanks. Macdougal turned toward the door Lenora was about to follow, but Quest signed to her to remain.

"I should like to have a little conversation with you about your mistress," he said to her pleasantly. "If you don't mind. I will ask you to ac company me in my car. I will send the man back with you."

For a moment the girl stood quite Her face was already ghastly Her eyes alone seemed to indi cate some fresh fear.

"I will go to my rooms and put on my hat," she said. Quest pointed through the half-open

Lenora was arranging her coat with A Elsworth and Lydia L. Chapelle, girl.

"Lenora is my name, sir," the girl replied.

They descended in the lift together Arthur and Henrietta Lee, girl and Quest handed the girl into his car. Joseph and Mary Easton, boy. and Quest handed the girl into his car. They drove quickly through the silent streets. The snow has ceased to fall and the stars were shining brightly. Lenora shivered as she leaned back in her corner "You are cold, I am afraid." Quest

remarked. "Never mind, there will be a good fire in my study. I shall only

ately. She was conscious that Quest had laid down the letters which he had been pretending to read. His eyes were fixed upon her. There was a queer new look in them, a strange new feeling creeping through her veins. Was she going to Quest's voice broke an unnatural si-

"You are anxious to telephone some-ne," he said. "You looked at both of he booths as we came through the otel. Then you remembered, I think. that he would not be there yet. Tele-phone now. The telephone is at your right hand. You know the number." She obeyed almost at once. She took

the receiver from the instrument by her side.
"Number 700, New York city."
"You will ask." Quest continued,
"whether he is all right, whether the jewels are safe."

The story of THE BLACK BOX will be continued in the Home Edition of The Times tomorrow.

FINANCIAL

EARNED SURPLUS ... \$1,000,000

There's Proof -of uniformly good service

in steady growth. The patronage of this bank has steadily grown until its depositors now number more

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REAL ESTATE interest and compared to the compar JOSEPH I. WELLER, 620 t St. N.W.

LOCAL AND NEW YORK FINANCIAL NEWS

PRICES ARE FIRMER ON LOCAL EXCHANGE

Volume of Trading Normal at Today's Session of Washington Stock Market.

Prices were slightly firmer, and the volume of trading normal at today's sess'on of the Washington Stock Ex change. The sales recorded were evenly divided between the stock and bond

Washington Gas 5 per cent bonds were in good demand, and \$3,500 worth were sold at 1054, or one-quarter of a point above the last previous sale. The quotation prices were established at 105 bid and 105% asked. Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 5's likewise showed an advance, selling up three-eights of a point to 104%, the price commanded a point to 104%, for \$2,000 worth.

The other bond sales included \$1,500 worth of Washington Ra!lway and Electric 4's at 80% to 81%, a \$500 Capital Traction 5 at 105%, and \$540 worth of United States Conservations United States Government coupon

of United States Government coupon 3's at 10!.

The Washington Railway and Electric Power issues led the stock list, fifty shares of the common selling at 88½, and an odd lot of twenty shares of the preferred at 84. Mergenthaler Linotype stock was off ½ point from the price that prevailed at the close of last week. Three quotation lots were treded in at 1/2. The only other sales of the day consisted of one share of Lincoln National Bank stock at 160, and five shares of American N the same figure.

Vital Records

"That will be your hat and coat upon the bed, there, won't it?" he remarked. "I am sorry to hurry you off, but I have another appointment. You will send, of course, for the young lady's friends," he added, turning to Mr. Marsham, "and cable her people."

"There is nothing more you can do. Mr. Quest?" the hotel manager added, a little querulously. "This affair must be cleared up for the credit of my hotel."

"Quest shrugged his shoulders. He glanced through the open door to where Lenora was arranging her coat with Lenora was arranging her coat with Lenora Lenora Lenora was arranging her coat with Lenora L

trembling fingers.

"There will be little difficulty about that," he said calmly. "If you are quite ready, Miss Lenora. Is that your name?"

"Lenora is my name, sir," the girl re"Lenora is my name, sir," the girl re"Lenora is my name, sir," the girl re-George and Eleonora Montgomery, girl

> Izac and Fanny Brown, boy. Marriage Licenses.

PORTER R. PRESGRAVES, 24, and Katt Stephenson, 23, Isanc A. Lectson, M. and Anna Natelsky, 2, Ira G. Reedy, 23, and Beulah B. Hoover, It Sam C. Robinson, 22, and Ida Hillman, 23,

Deaths.

remarked. "Never mind, there will be a good fire in my study. I shall only keep you for a few moments. I dare not be away for long just now, as I have 2 very important case on."

"There is nothing more that I can tell you," Lenora ventured, a little fearfully. "Can't you ask me what you want to, now, as we go along?"

"We have already arrived," Quest told her. "Do you mind following me?" She crossed the pavement and passed through the front door which Quest was holding open for her. They stepped into the little lift, and a moment or two later Lenora was installed in an easy chair in Quest's sitting room, in front of a roaring fire.

"Lean back and make yourself comfortable," Quest invited, as he took a chair opposite to her. "I must just look through these papers."

The girl did as she was told. She opened her coat. The room was delightfully warm, almost overheated. A sense of rest crept over her. For the first moment since the awful shock, merves seemed quieter. Gradually she began to feel almost as though she were passing into sleep. She started up, but sank back again almost immediately. She was conscious that Quest had laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a shock and laid down the letters which he had been left. The short is a short in the short is a should be short in the short is a s

Pape Robinson, 63 yrs., 25 McCullough st. N. W.
Welford Colman, jr., 1 yr., 468 Richardson place N. W.
Howard Robinson, 16 mo., Children's Hospi, Helen E. Freeman, 1 mo., 220 R st. N. W.
Altee Dunnington, 50 years, Wash Asy, Hos, Mary B. Carroll, 67 yrs., 1736 Kilburne st. nw.
Hennemin F. Ashby, 37 yrs., 605 O st. nw.
Kathegine E. Rothstein, 63 yrs., 63 P st. nc.
Elizabeth T. Harding, 89 yrs., 1338 Emerson nc.
Maud Jacobs, 37 yrs., Garfield Hospital, Chapman J. Gilbert, 85 yrs., 1851 Cal. st. nw.
Pearl Smith, 43 yrs., Wash, Asylum Hos, Hazel Y. King, 20 mo., Children's Hospital, Martha Morion, 43 yrs., Preedmen's Hospital, Martha Morion, 43 yrs., Shepherd road, Woodburn, D. C.
Philip O. Thomas, 2 yrs., 809 rFench St. Lw.
Henry West, 10 mo., 218 H st. sw.
Edward Jackson, 3 mo., 1618 2nd st. nw.

Substitutes.

Tourist (in village notion-store)-Whaddya got in the shape of automo-Saleslady-Funeral wreaths, life preervers, invalid cushions and doughnuts.

Local Stocks.

106%

GOVERNMENT BONDS.
Hid. Ask. 1101/6 f's..... coi. Gas & Elec. 5's. RAILROAD BONDS.

RAILROAD BONDS.

Capital Traction R. R. 5's... 105%

Ans. Pot. Guar. 5's... 100

Anacestia & Potomac 5's... 100

City & Suburban 5's... 101

Metropolitan R. R. 5's... 1034

Wash. Ry. & Elec. 4's... 804

Wash. Alex. & Mt. V.5's... 874 102 102 102 8134 Balto. & An. 5's.... 82 MISCELLANEOUS BONDS. Potomac Elec. Cons. 5's.... 99% Potomac Elec. Lt. 5's P. Telephone 5's.

Tel. & Tel. 4's.

Tel. & Tel. 4's.

Tel. & Tel. 4's.

. Paper Mfg. 5's.

. Market 5's 1927.

Market 5's 1947.

Market 5's 1947. Amer. Ame, W. M. Cold Storage 5's..... N. & W. Steamboat 5's.... Riggs Realty (long) 5's..... Riggs Realty (short) 5's PUBLIC UTILITY STOCKS. Capital Traction 88%
Wash. Ry. & Elec., com... 88%
Wash. Ry. & Elec. pfd.... 84
Wash. Balto. & An. com... 30
72

Washington Gas TYPE MACHINE STOCKS. Mergenthaler Linotype 1711/2 MINING STOCK. Greene Cananea NATIONAL BANK STOCKS. American National Bank 150 Capital National Bank...... 206 Columbia National Bank.....

Far. Mech Nat. Bank...... Federal National Bank...... Nat. Bank of Wash. TRUST COMPANY STOCKS. Amer. Sec. & Trust...... 275 National Sav. & Trust...... 262

> SAVINGS BANK STOCKS Home Savings FIRE INSURANCE STOCKS. Corcoran Fire Insurance.... 80 Firemen's Fire Insurance.... 18 Ger. Amer. Fire Ins....... 250

MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.

United States Coupon 3's, \$540 @101. Capital Traction 5 s, \$500 @105%. Washington Railway 4's, \$500@81%.

506814. Washington Railway preferred, 20084. Mergenthaler, 1007172, 1007172, 1007172. Lincoln National Bank, 10160. American National Bank, 5@160.

Dr. James S. Montgomery

In the second of a series of "Socialistic sermon-lectures," the Rev. Dr. James Shera Montgomery, of the Metropolitan M. E. Church, said last night that indiidualism and Socialism each contains a great- truth, but that they were oppo-

"One has for its fruit a destructive selfishness and the other spreads itself overso much territory that the danger is it will make society exceedingly thin," said Dr. Montgomery. "The day would be poor, indeed, were it not for models and ideas embodied in good men and women. Man is the one mighty factor in this great universe."

CHEESE—New York, new, 18c per 1b.; flat, 18c per 1b.

BUTTER—Eigin print, 25c per 1b.; tub. 31c per 1b.; process, 25d/28c per 1b.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 16d/15c per 1b.; roosters, 10c per 1b.; spring chickens, 10d/25c per 1b.; live turkeys, 15d/26c per 1b.

LIVE STOCK—Veal calves, test, 11d/15c per 1b.; heav, 9½/210c per 1b.; fat sheep. 5d/8½-c per 1b.; spring lambs, 14d/15c per 1b. VEGETABLES—Quotations furnished by Taylor Wade)—Potatoes, 11.50 per barrel; onions, 75c per bu.; \$1.25 per sack; cabbage, \$1.25 per hundred 1bs.; lettuce, \$2.00g/3.00 per barket; beets, \$2.00 per 10 bunches

DRESSED PORK—Small, 9d/3½c per 1b.; medium, 3½/d/2c per 1b.; heavy, \$d/3½c per 1b.; Receipts of calves light; market active. KRET, PRICE & CO.

FINANCIAL

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Corner Fourteenth and & Streets

Am, Can., pfd...... 95 95 Am. C. F., pfd......113% 113% 113% Am. Ice Sec...... 29 29 Am. Smelting...... 6414 63 Am. Sugar & R..... 102% 102% 102% Am. Tob. pfd. new...1071/2 1071/2 1071/2 Atchison..... 96 Balti & Ohio. Bethlehem Steel 55% 54% 55% B. F. Goodrich 3514 34% 34% Brook Rpd. Trans... 87 87 California Petrol..... 17 17 Col. & South. com ... 24% 21 21

., M. & St. P..... 1614 8614 16141 "hicago & N. W.....124 12314 124 | 12314 Corn Product ofd.... 71% 71 7134 Distillers' Sec...... 814 815 816 1 Great North Ore 32% 32 1016 1016 1015 Miami Copper..... Missouri Pacific 1115 10% 1114 1

N. Y., O. & W,.... North. Pacific. Penn. Railroad. Ray, Con. Cop...... 1716 17 South, Pacific

 $\frac{235}{120}$ Southern Ry. Inton Pacific.

Nat. Union Fire Insurance... 6
TITLE INSURANCE STOCKS.
Columbia Title Insurance... 5
Real Estate Title Ins....... 85

Local Sales.

Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone 5's, 1,000@1044, \$1,000@1044. Washington Railway common, 25@8844,

Discusses Socialism

Wholesale Produce Market

EGGS-Nearby, fresh, 11@18c per dozen; southern, 17c per dozen. CHEESE-New York, new, 18c per lb.; flat, DRESSED PORK-Small, 9691/20 per lb.; edium, 84/690 per lb.; heavy, 86/8/40 per Receipts of eggs more plentiful; market

FINANCIAL

Surplus and Undivided Profits Over \$538,000.00

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Alaska Gold....... 334 824 38 | 3116 Amal Copper...... 54% 54% 54% 54% 54% Am. Beet, Sug.,com... 40% 40% 40% 139% American Can..... 2714 2714 2714 1 2714 Am, Tel. & Tel...... 12014 120 12014 1 12014 54% 3414 California Pet. pfd., 4914 4914 4914 | 49 Canadian Pacific..... 160% 159% 160% | 159% entral Leatner..... 8314 3319 8314 | 8314 hi. & Great West .. 1014 1015 1014 |

Corn Products...... 11% 11% 11% 11% 1 reat North, pfd.....116 115% 115% | 115% 20% 2019 20% | 20% Nev. Con. Copper... 1214 1214 1214 12 N. Y., N. H. & H..... 5214 52 5214 5194 5314 | 51% 2415 2415 24151 102% 102% 102% | 102%

.10514 105 105 1 10514 P. C., C. & St. L.... 68 6814 68 143% 15% 14% 15 16 46 South, Rv. pfd.....

Tenn. Copper..... 51% 51% 51% 1 51% 120% 120 12014 | 120 . S. Rub., 1st pfd.... 102% 102% 102% | 102% 45% 44% 45% 1 44% J. S. Steel, pfd...... 105 105 106 1 104% Itah Copper 5214 5214 5214 5214 West. Maryland..... 23 21% 21% | 21%

West. U. Teleg 64% 64% 64% 64 . 10414 10335 104 1 103 Woolworth Bonds.

Am. T. & T. cvt. 41/2's. 98% 981/2 98% 98% Atch. Con. 4's 1916.... 96 8. & O. Gen. 4's 8815 88% 8871 Brooklyn R. T. 5'8 99% 90% 90% ., B. & Q. Jt. 4's 98 ., R. I. & P. 5's..... 56 7614 7544 7614 | 7544 Inter. Met. 416's N. Y. Railways Co. 5's. 53% 53% 53% 53% 53% North, Pacific 3's,.... 63% 63% 63% 63% So. Pac. Con. 4'8 814 814 814 814 So. Pac. Con. 5's 9715 9715 9715 9714 South Railway 4's 6314 6314 6314 Snow-Bound Rabbits

South. Ry. 5's...... 90 98% 99 | 98% Union Pac. 4's...... 89 88% 89 | 89% 'Colonial Furniture'

by Arthur L. Blakeslee, president of of the organization tomorrow night at 1517 H street northwest. The talk will be illustrated. A musical program will be given and refreshments will be served by the ladles.

Quotations furnished by W. B. Hibbs & Co., members of New York Stock Exchange. HAS FIRMER TONE

Strength of Alaska Gold and Features Early Trading.

*NEW YORK, March 15 .- The stock market, while continuing extremely dull, today showed a better and firmer tone. The changes in price levels from those established Saturday, however, were in the majority of cases merely fractional.

The feature of the early trading was the strength of Alaska Gold and the motor stocks. Alaska Gold recorded an advance during the morning of 1% points, and established a new high record for the stock by selling at ²³4. General Motors also established a new high mark by selling up to 100, a gain of 2 points. Maxwell Motor and Stude-

to a national bank in 1865

Hamilton drew the constitution, and took one and one-half shares of stock, the par value of which was \$500 per share. Aaron Burr took three shares. There were nine women stockholders Hamilton resigned from the directorate five years after the bank was started, when he became the first Secretary of

Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the imperial treasury of Germany, in intro-ducing the budget on March 10, stated to the reichstag that the cost of the war for all of the belligerents was 1,500,000,000 marks (\$375,000,000) a week.
"The cost to the British in the first eight months of the war was 3,000,000,-000 marks (\$2,250,000,000), and to the French and Russians probably 10,000,000,000,000 marks (4,500,000,000), the news agency statement continues.

'The Secretary quoted David Lioyd George as saying that the war would be won by the last billion. English opinion

1412

45%

is that the war is only a continuation of business, while the German consider war a national duty.

"England's November loan was suc-cessful only because the installments were spread over a long time and the Bank of England allowed unprecedented facilities. Expends subscribers to the French subscribers to the loan issued shortly before the war are unable to pay the installments." Additional subscription to the new war loan, amounting to 34,500,000 marks (\$8,625,000), have been received. The subscriptions were made among others y the Relief Association, the pensions

fund employes, and the Factory Fore-nen's Association. Although no invitations to subscribe to the war loan have been sent abroad, subscriptions amounting to 120,000,000 marks (\$30,000,000) have been received. North. Pacific 4's..... 90% 90% 90% 90% the Overseas Agency says, from neutral

> BEAVER DAM, Wis., March 15,-You've heard of the Kansas grasshopper which destroys trees by kicking

Is Subject of Lecture them to pieces, but Beaver Dam has a tribe of rabbits that is killing fruit trees "Colonial Furniture" will be discussed and berry bushes by devouring them. Of course, they don't masticate the the Washington Architectural Club, at whole thing, but they are gnawing the the mid-Lent social and lecture meeting bark away in rings and the trees and bushes are sure to die. The severe cold weather and a deep snow of a short time ago is blamed for their voracious appe-tities. Several hundred dollars' damage has bene done already,

Capital and Surplus, \$250,000.

U. S. Gov't Supervision.

Pay Day Will Have a **New Meaning**

-for you as soon as you begin to deposit a portion of your weekly or monthly salary in this

Start THIS pay day and establish a bank account of your OWN, instead of using all your earnings to enrich others. Get out of the financial rut—aspire to bigger and better things!

ONE DOLLAR will open a savings account. Why delay longer?

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FINANCIAL

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dinavia, in four languages. Metropolitan cities are not controlled by the synascate, nence we are permitted to publish these instructive sermons in the learning newspapers, paying therefor at advertising rates. INTERNATIONAL BIBLE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Fastings and Feastings Proper and Improper

"WHEN YE FAST, BE NOT HYPOCRITICAL."

Right and Wrong Views of Fasting-The Bible's Teaching-The Spirit of Fasting-Spiritual Feasting at the Same Time-Hygienic Value of Fasting-Spiritual Advantages.



ual, we give an illustration. An acquaintance who professed to observe Lent was instructed to drink but one cup of coffee daily. He made some kind of compromise with his conscience by which he got his usual amount of coffee in a bowl. Apparently he thought that the complete until he is actually the Lent would not notice the chest the chest that the complete until he is actually the Lent would not notice the chest that the complete until he is actually the Lent would not notice the chest that the complete until he is actually the Lent would not notice the chest that the carnel weapons, not with his neighbors or his family, but with himself—his new nature. Lord would not notice the cheat and would reward him for such hyporitical fasting. Nothing is more contemptible in the ord's sight than a hypocrite. Honesty s the one quality which all who would be pleasing to God must possess, no

matter how weak or fallen they may be by heredity. In His preaching Jesus condemned hypocrisy perhaps as much as all other sins together. With everybody the first lesson should be honest not merely in monetary affairs, but in everything including words and thoughts. Although nothing in the Bible suggests a Lenten season, the Apostles commend fasting. St. Paul wrote, "Approving ourselves in fastings," and again, "in fastings often." (2 Corinthians 6:4, 5; 11:27.) Evidently fasting is in the nature of self-sacrifice—a voluntary offering to God, with a view to greater efficiency in God's service or to greater control over our imperfect.

mortal bodies in the interests of our Appropriate Lenten Thoughts.

to greater control over our imperfect

Much may be said in favor of fasting during the Lenten season. On hygienic grounds alone, it would be of advantage, particularly to the well-fed, if during the springtime they would restrain also perceive the present advantages accruing through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life everlasting preciate still more the life everlasting

may remember that just before His crucifixion Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, and indicated the date as the proper one for its annual commemoration amongst His followers, as was ion amongst His followers, as was he custom in the early Church. He may also remember that all Jesus' followers covenant to share His Cup of suffering, of ignominy, misunderstanding, misrepresentation, slander, abuse, death. He may remember that as this was the special time of trial for Jesus, so it seems also to have been from the very first a time of special trial, testing, sifting, amongst His fol-

All these considerations might well nove God's true people to fast during period preceding the anniversary of a peried preceding the anniversary of their Redeemer's death. In observing such restraint of appetite, from a desire to draw especially near to God, they would certainly be contributing a share toward that end in harmony with the Scriptural decigration, "Draw nigh unto Me, and I will draw nigh unto you."

We have no suggestion to offer respecting the kind of food or the quantity that should be eaten. There are people in such a physically weak condition that it would be absolutely wrong for them to abstain from such dition that it would be absolutely wrong for them to abstain from such nourishments as they can assimilate. Heart and head should combine in determining this matter of fasting. Dariel the Prophet tells us that for three whole weeks he "ate no pleasant bread," while he especially sought the bread, while be especially sought the Lord, in prayer respecting matters which perplexed him. Evidently he confined himself strictly to the things absolutely needed for the maintenance of mental and physical strength. He are nothing superabundantly, to clog his system, to make him cluggish in mind and body, and to incaparitate him for his routine work and for his special prayers for work and for his special prayers for wisdom. We can take a good lesson from this Scriptural example.

Jesus did not teach His disciples to est. This does not mean, however, hat they lived sumptuously; for on two occasions after Jesus had miracuously d a multitude on plain bread and fish He directed His disciples to gather up the fragments, and these they carried with them as their own food supply for with them as their own food supply for many days. This was practically fasting. Jesus declared that the days would come when He would be gone, and He said, "In these days they shall fast." (Matthew 9:14, 15.) The days of fasting began as soon as the Lord was crucified, and have continued ever since, whether outvardly or known only to their own hearts. All His followers have practiced fasting, self-denial; else surely they would not have progressed in spirituality. pirituality

The Christian's Perpetual Fast. It is a mistake to suppose that fasting applies merely to food. In its oroadest sense, it signifies self-denial—denial of the desires of the flesh, to the intent

that the spiritual nature may be strengthened. The Apostle clearly shows this in his suggestion that husbands and wives occasionally live apart, that they may give themselves the more thoroughly to prayer and the consideration of spiritual things. (1 Corinthians 7:5.) The true Christian really lives a life of daily self-denial. He remembers the Apostle's words, "If ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the flesh, ye shall live." Such mortification of the flesh, such self-denials of the various fleshly inclinations in the interest of flesh, such self-denials of the various fleshly inclinations, in the interest of the new nature, are fastings.

The ideal condition for Christians would be to maintain a perpetual fast—

would be to maintain a perpetual fast—
to live always in so abstemious a manner as would keep them spiritaully in
the best condition and make them most
efficient in the Lord's service. Where
this highest ideal seems unattainable,
then the proper course would be as close
an approach to this as possible—not of
Divine command, for there is none, but of free will—each sacrificing himself, his fleshly appetites and propensities, in the interest of his own spiritual development and his service of the Lord. Our Lord's instructions were that His followers should not hypocritically make

Nashville, Tenn., a show of their fasting—should not boast of their self-sacrifices and self-denials. Those matters should be between God and themselves. Instead of the self-sacrifices and self-denials. addresses here to-looking sad, and appearing to crave day. We report the sympathy, they should contrariwise take day. We report the sympathy, they should contrariwise take one on Matthew special care that none might notice—washing, their faces, anointing their fast, be not of a sad countenance." Sad countenance." He said in part:

The Lenten sea-ruling in his heart.—Philippians, 4:7.

The Scriptural proposition seems to be

The Lenten season—the forty days'
fast preceding the
a n n i v e r s a r y
of Jesus' death—
has long been a
fixed rule with
some Christian people. Although not of
divine command the custom appeals to
many. Like every good thing, it is
misunderstood and perverted by the majority, because they are not spiritually
minded. To many of these it is a command, the neglect of which would bring
upon them the disapprobation of friends,
and the observance of which would
bring them some favor from God or
some relaxation from proper punishments for their sins—they know not
exactly what.

Of such perfunctory fasting, displeasine to God and valueless to the individual, we give an illustration. An acquaintance who professed to observe

dead according to the flesh and until as a New Creature, he shall have exas a New Creature, he shall have ex-perienced the blessings of the resurrec-tion to the perfection of the spiritual

Feasting While Fasting.

The unregenerate might not unreasonably gain the impression that if this presentation is true, a Christian's life would be very unhappy—continually battling with himself, continually watching, practicing self-denial, and striving against the natural tendencies of sin. But such a conclusion would be very erroneous; for the Christian alone has the true secret of a happy life.

Even the worldly recognize the fact that whosoever lives after the desires of his fellen nature will even he had. of his fallen nature will surely end his career ignobly. Hence we find noble men and women amongst the unregenerate, those not begotten of the Holy Spirit, but nevertheless manifesting moderation of life. They practice self-restraint, not toward God, but for self-interest, learning by experience and by interest, learning by experience and by observation the necessity for this if life would be made a blessing to themselves or to others. Such strong characters

sociation.

h no invitations to subscribe to loan have been sent abroad, one amounting to 120,000,000 have been received, seas Agency says, from neutral Bound Rabbits

Bound Rabbits

Eat Bark, Kill Trees

Bound Rabbits

Eat Bark, Kill Trees

DAM. Wis. March 15.—

Britishally would restrain the present advantages accruing through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading through self-straint, they appreciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message, coming to all who have ears to hear it through the preciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message, coming to all who have ears to hear it through the preciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message, coming to all who have ears to hear it through the course were pursued. This is the preciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message, coming to all who have ears to hear it through the greatly lessened if this course were pursued. This is the preciate still more the life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message, coming to all who have ears to hear it through the course were pursued. The life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message coming to all who have ears to hear it through the course were pursued. The life overlasting beyond and the divine favor leading thereto. This message coming to all who have ears to hear it through the course were purs onward and upward as new creatures. So great is the joy which comes with the realization of acceptance into God's family as joint heirs with His Son Lord Jesus Christ, that nothing else can compare with it. No wonder St. Paul says that to such "old things have passed away, and all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17.) Instead of earthly hopes for earthly wealth, name and fame, they have Heavenly hope for Heavenly riches, glory and honor. Instead of aspirations for political preference and honor. for political preferment and honor of men, these have before their minds God's promises—exceeding great and precious. These assure them that their precious. These assure them that their faithfulness in present trials and difficulties, and the proving of their loyalty to God and the principles of His righteousness, will through Christ bring them eventually to participation with their Redeemer in His glorious Millennial Kingdom.

nial Kingdom.
With such prospects life is worth living. Those attaining this vantage-ground can, with the Apostle, count all earthly things comparatively valueless. earthly things comparatively valueless. To these, fastings, self-denials, self-restraints, even privations, and persecutions, have no terror. They rejoice in these, assured by the Bible that they are signs that God is dealing with them as with sons, whom He is educating, fitting, polishing and testing, preparatory to receiving them to the Heavenly glory.

tory to receiving them to the Heavenly glory.

This class have the peace of God which passeth all understanding; for they have the Divine assurance that since they have come into God's family through the appointed Doorway, the Lord Jesus Christ, "All things shall work together for good to them"—to all that "love God, who are called the according to His purpose." These realize that God, having begun a good work in them, is both able and willing to perfect it until the Day of Christ, (Philippians 1:5.) These are seeking to make their calling and their election sure; and so great is their appreciation that the trials and difficulties by the way—the fastings, self-denials, and oppositions of fastings, self-denials, and oppositions of the Adversary—are but light afflictions, not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in them. glory that shall be revealed in them.

Even the prayers of this class gradually change. No longer do they ask for food, raiment and earthly things. Rather they accept whatever may be God's providence for them with thanksgiving. Their prayers are mostly offerings of praise, mentions of Divine mercies already received, expressions of confidence in God, and requests for more of His Spirit, whatever this may mean in the way of greater trials, difficulties or persecutions; for they desire

mean in the way of greater trials, diffi-culties or persecutions; for they desire that the will of God may be completed in them and the character-likeness of Christ be attained.

In conclusion, we recommend true fasting, true disciplining, true coercion of the will of the flesh, on the part of all, as necessary for their mental moral and intellectual development. And espe-cially do we commend abstinences, self-denials, restraints, to those who have consecrated their lives to God, to walk consecrated their lives to God, to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. But we rep-rehend all hypocrisy and sham, whether associated with Lent or fasting or any other matter, as being an abomination in the sight of God.

VALUABLE COUPON.

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Trusting that you have been brofited by the reading of the above sermon, we mention Pastor Russell's widely read book, "THE DIVINE PLAN," also known as "MILENNIAL DAWN," published in nineteen languages, with a circulation exceeding 4.500,000. Its comprehensive chart of the Ages gives the mental eye a sweeping historical view of humanity's progress—past, present and a thousand years into the future-from the Bible standpoint. A 50c sectivenir edition (440 pages), containing an illustrated chapter on the Great Pyramid of Egypt and its historical, religio-scientific relationship to the Divine Program will be mailed you promptly upon receipt of 25c with this coupon. Can you afford to miss this literary treat? Address International Bible Students Association.